



## SOUTHWEST REGION LICC REPORT ~ MAY 14, 2004

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**First Steps Facilitator: Becky Taggart, representing 27 counties**

**Regional LICC status:**

Active LICCs: 11 active LICCs incorporating 23 counties

LICCs in development: 4 counties out of 27 not represented (Douglas, Ozark, Texas, and Wright)

**Primary Outcomes of LICCs:**

1. Increase public awareness of the program and the contact point/SPOE by participating in area opportunities such as fairs, etc.
2. Establish a well-functioning Child Find system
3. Promote provider recruitment to meet the needs of families and allow choices for families
4. Recruit members and increase the consistency of attendance of LICC membership, with members from a variety of backgrounds, especially parents of children with disabilities
5. Locate community resources
6. Update Scope of Work to focus future efforts of the LICC

**Summary of activities and accomplishments:**

The LICCs continue to work on the outcomes selected by their membership as outlined above. SPOE staff are now attending most LICC meetings to provide information on the number of referrals and the number of children in the program.

- Barry/Lawrence LICC ~ Printed a list of red flags/milestones for parents/caregivers/teachers and delivering to area physicians for parents' waiting areas. Printed sippy cups with First Steps phone number and distributed at Baby Affair in April. Planning a workshop for child care providers in Barry county. Have several parents that attend meetings.
- Benton/Henry/St. Clair LICC ~ Will not meet over the summer but plan to work on recruiting LICC members this fall.
- Camden/Laclede LICC ~ No meeting in April or May.
- Dade/Barton LICC ~ Delivering brochures to area doctors and hospitals and contacting SPP, PT, and OT providers to inform them about the First Steps program.
- Dallas LICC ~ Attended community meeting to invite members to LICC meetings, and developed plan to provide brochures to area agencies and businesses.
- Tri-Lakes First Steps Coordination Council (Cedar, Polk, and Hickory) ~ Planning advertisement regarding FS in area newsletter.
- Greene/Christian LICC ~ Updating Scope of Work & provided brochures for child care provider's dinner.
- Jasper LICC ~ Added Newton and McDonald counties to LICC membership, SPOE presentation to WIC, developed developmental chart with First Steps contact info to be included in the newborn hospital gift bags, had article in The Joplin Globe on First Steps Day, receiving referrals from physicians who were contacted by the child find committee, provided brochures for child care providers' dinner.
- Phelps/Pulaski LICC ~ See SE facilitator's report.

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- Children's Resource Connections (Stone & Taney) ~ Brochures sent to area Head Starts, and continue to be included in hospital newborn gift bags. Toll-free contact number added for SPOE to increase referrals. Future meetings will include a meeting time and time to deliver brochures to area referral sources, and members will call community members and invite them to attend meetings.
- Texas County ~ TEAM planning an open house in March to increase community awareness of resources.
- Webster LICC ~ Finalized plans for participating in Play Day May 1, 2004 with Webster County Child Care Coalition. Activity was cancelled due to rain, and has not been rescheduled yet.

### **Summary of identified needs or concerns:**

#### Barry/Lawrence

- Child find in rural areas and finding providers to travel to rural areas without mileage reimbursement.

#### Barton/Dade:

- Need all types of providers in both counties
- Continuing to identify children eligible for services

#### Greene/Christian:

- Funding for child find activities

#### Jasper:

- We are concerned about the low number of referrals and participating children in Newton and McDonald counties, which will now be served by this LICC
- We are concerned about the low number of service providers in our area.

#### Stone/Taney:

- There is a strong concern in this area about the **lack of referrals** since the redesign

#### Webster:

- 50% of referrals are being found ineligible, most of these are referrals for speech delays.

### **Key Points to provide the SICC:**

1. Barry/Lawrence: Concerned about finding providers to travel to rural areas without mileage reimbursement and child find in those rural areas.
2. Dade/Barton: We continue to get the word out about the First Steps program and recruit providers so that our identified children can receive the services in their IFSPs.
3. Jasper:
  - "We feel it is imperative to have support and information from our FS Facilitator and the SPOE office. We could not be effective without them."
  - "We are interested in the development of the RICC and hope to be included."
  - Have met the 2% goal for Jasper county, and hope to do the same soon for Newton and McDonald counties.
4. Stone/Taney: Meeting locations are rotated between counties to increase attendance.
5. Webster: Planning activities to increase public awareness of program.